

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Ester Community Association****Project Title:**

Ester Community Association - John Trigg Ester Library Design, Construction and Improvements

State Funding Requested: \$ 50,000**House District: 8 - D**

Future Funding May Be Requested

Brief Project Description:

Construction of a library building in the community of Ester, Alaska.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$433,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Federal Funds					\$25,000	FY09 and FY10
State Funds					\$75,000	FY09 and FY10
Rasmuson Foundation					\$200,000	FY09 and FY10
Local Funds	\$33,000	FY05 - FY07			\$50,000	FY09, FY10
Other					\$50,000	FY09, FY10
Total	\$33,000				\$400,000	

Explanation of Other Funds:

In-kind contributions for construction include \$21,000 worth of promissory notes already obtained and signed by local contractors and tradesmen, to be used beginning FY08.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

Design and construction of a 3,500 square foot community library building. Library design is already being undertaken by USKH, Inc. (lead architect Gary Pohl, final design expected March 30, 2008). The library is to include sustainable LEED design features, including alternative & renewable heating sources and power, and will serve as a community gathering space as well as library (the only current indoor gathering spaces are a small rental hall, the fire station conference room, and two bars). The building design will lend itself to expansion should this be required in the future.

Features:

library stacks area approx. 1,750 sq. ft.
 reading/multipurpose space approx. 500 sq ft
 utility area approx. 200 sq ft
 entry/kitchenette approx 100 sq ft
 bathrooms approx 100 sq ft
 office/conference spaces approx. 600 sq ft

storage/work area approx 250 sq ft

Grounds will include a gazebo (slab already poured, expected finish date July 1, 2008), community garden & picnic area, greenspace, and parking area.

Construction is to begin summer 2008 and will commence with foundation, parking, septic, and rough framing. 2009 will see enclosure, wiring, installation of heating system, etc. 2010 will involve finish work, exterior spaces, and moving in the library volumes, with grand opening slated for fall 2010.

Project justification:

The Ester library was founded in 1999 and has grown rapidly both in membership and number of volumes; it is currently in a 16 x14 foot rented room and outgrew the space in 2004; members of the community are storing books for the library in their basements and storage closets and a small rental space has been found to keep the overflow until such time as a building is constructed to house them all. The library began as a small community reading room with books found at the local transfer sites; community members have donated books and other materials over the years. Currently about 4,500 volumes (books, videos, puzzles, tapes) are on the shelves at any one time, with about 200-250 items checked out. An additional estimated 3,000 volumes are in storage, all donated. The library has no office space available for the librarians and is entirely volunteer-run; community interest in the library is high. There is no larger rental space available in the village, so in 2006 the Ester Community Association membership voted to purchase land on Village Road from Malemute Inc. on which to build a library building. The land was purchased for \$27,000; donations from the community at two annual fundraisers (the Lallapalooza and the Li-Berry Music Festival) each year mean that the land will be paid off by August 2008 (large initial down payment plus \$300 per month since. The two annual fundraisers see high turnout and support from the community, and participation in the design and planning meetings for library construction is good. A local community radio station, Fairbanks Open Radio, and its supporters are interested in participating in the development of a music library, recording studio, and broadcasting office as part of the library; the library's central location is in the area for hopes to base its operation and has offered to help with fundraising for the building.

Project Timeline:

2005-2008: purchase and design
 2008: foundation, septic, framework
 2009: enclosure and framing, heating & electrical
 2010: finish work

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

John Trigg Ester Library and Ester Community Association

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact name: Deirdre Helfferich (library & ECA board member)
 Phone number: 907.457.3418
 Address: PO Box 468, Ester AK 99725
 E-mail: library@esterrepublic.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

John Trigg Ester Library

part of the Ester Community Association, Inc.



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request for capital project funding, December 14, 2007

To: Representative David Guttenberg
State Capitol, Room 418
Juneau, Alaska 99801


The Ester Community Association (ECA) respectfully requests funding in the sum of \$50,000 for the John Trigg Ester Library Building Construction Project. This will be sufficient to start work on the foundation of the new library building.

The library, which serves the area of Ester and vicinity (as well as some residents of Fairbanks and Nenana), was founded in 1999 and became part of the ECA in 2004. It has received the enthusiastic support of the community, both in library membership, fundraising, and volunteer hours. However, the library has outgrown the small rental space currently housing its approximately 4,500 volumes (another 3,000 are in storage), and the ECA purchased land in 2006 on which to build a new library building (this will be paid off by August 2008). A property survey and soils test has been done and a site selected and cleared. In-kind contributions for construction include \$21,000 worth of promissory notes already obtained and signed by local contractors and tradesmen, to be used beginning FY08; also other grants and possibly loans from various agencies (search for these funds in progress). The land was purchased for \$27,000; donations from the community at two annual fundraisers (the Lallapalooza and the Li-Berry Music Festival) each year mean that the land will be paid off by August 2008 (large initial down payment plus \$300 per month since). The two annual fundraisers see high turnout and support from the community, and participation in the design and planning meetings for library construction is good. A local community radio station, Fairbanks Open Radio, and its supporters are interested in participating in the development of a music library, recording studio, and broadcasting office as part of the library; the library's central location is in the area FOR hopes to base its operation and has offered to help with fundraising for the building.

We are designing and will construct a ~3,500 sq ft community library building. Library design is already being undertaken by USKH, Inc. (lead architect Gary Pohl, final design expected March 30, 2008). The library is to include sustainable LEED design features, including alternative & renewable heating sources and power, and will serve as a community gathering space as well as library (the only current indoor gathering spaces are a small rental hall, the fire station conference room, and two bars). The building design will lend itself to expansion should this be required in the future. Several public meetings on the design have incorporated community members' suggestions.

More information on the project is available at the library website.

thank you,


Deirdre Helfferich (library & ECA board member)
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